

USSN: 09/974,882

28 October 2003

REMARKS

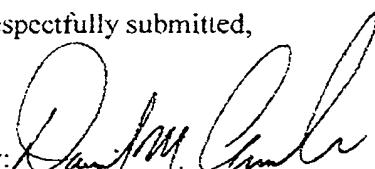
Upon entry of the above amendment, claims 21 and 24-26 will be pending. The claims have been rejected under 35 USC § 102 as anticipated by WO 00/34436, which in turn is based on U.S. provisional application no. 60/0110,951. The '951 application is also the priority case for the instant application. Applicants respectfully submit that entry of the above amendment obviates this rejection, and they respectfully request its withdrawal. This amendment adds no new matter and is fully supported by the specification and declaration as originally filed. Accordingly, it is submitted that this amendment places all currently pending claims in condition for allowance and renders the outstanding rejection moot. Therefore, entry of this amendment and allowance of the claims is proper.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and they earnestly solicit a notice to such effect. Should any issues or questions remain, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at 858.735.7090 so that they may be promptly resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 3 Nov 2003

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